

186th Air Refueling Wing
Mississippi Air National Guard
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Meridian, MS 39307-7112

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186th Air Refueling Wing

VOLUME IX: NUMBER III

MARCH 2004

2004 Drill Dates

06-07 Dec 2003
10-11 Jan 2004
07-08 Feb 2004
06-07 Mar 2004
03-04 Apr 2004
01-02 May 2004
05-06 Jun 2004
26-27 Jun 2004
07-08 Aug 2004
11-12 Sep 2004

Upcoming Drill Dates

MARCH							APRIL							MAY							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						6						1	2	3						1	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
														30	31						

Have some news?

Please notify Major Bradley Crawford at 484-9803 if YOU have any newsworthy happenings in your section. Retirements ... promotions ... weekend deployments ... new personnel ... special projects ... etc., that are of interest to members of the unit. These are the types of events that we want to publicize in the *Jet Blast* and Local News Media. On public affairs articles please be sure to include the author's name.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U. S. Military Services. Contents of the *Jet Blast* are not necessarily the official views of the U. S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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Bradley J Crawford, Maj, Editor

Col. ERIK HEARON, Commander

- 1
Commander's Comments
- 2
Greetings from Dining Facility
- 3
Wings Over Meridian • SGLI News
- 4
Black History Program
- 5
Bulletin Board • Looking Back
- 6
Portal Accounts • NCO Information
- 7
Command Chief Benton
Visits 186 ARW
- 8-9
Airman & 1st Sergeant of the Year
News from the 238th Air Support
Operations Squadron
- 10
Safety Award
Tom Williams Receives Award
- 11
Uniform Tips
- 12
Enlistments • Retirements
Promotions • Pay Dates
- 13
Chaplain's Column
- 14
Privacy Info./Cell Phones
Spouse Flights • Security Reminder
- 15
Golf Tournament
- 16
Calendar

Commander's Comments

Mentoring and Communications –

How do we prepare ourselves and those with whom we work for the future? How do we ensure the future of the Wing? How do we prepare people to assume higher levels of responsibility, whether they may pursue goals here, at other units in the state or even at the national level?

All commanders should consider the professional development of their subordinates as a principal responsibility of command. Commanders should foster a teacher-student relationship with their subordinates. ... Commanders should see the development of their subordinates as a direct reflection on themselves. (USMC publication *Warfighting*, 1989)

“The notice of others has been the start of many successful men.” (General George S. Patton, Jr., 1915) We must notice and encourage those among us who demonstrate the desire and potential for advancement. Some will think that I am proposing pre-selection. Nothing could be further from the truth. Pre-selection involves saying that a specific person will get a particular position and that others need not apply. This is an open and ongoing invitation.

Noticing dedicated and motivated personnel and encouraging them as a group to pursue technical schools, professional military education (PME), deployments, leadership positions, etc. is planning for our future. Failure to plan and train in this manner will limit the future of the individuals and the

(cont. inside)



Col Erik Hearon
Wing Commander

2 *Commander's Comments, Continued*

Wing. This invitation will not be appropriate for every person and will not be accepted by all that might be capable of the higher responsibilities and demands of what is involved.

It should be clearly noted that this invitation is made without regard to whether someone is officer or enlisted, traditional or part-time, male or female, minority or other. Every person is valuable to us. Suggestions on how to better incorporate traditional members in the flow of information and decisions are and will continue to be particularly appreciated. We have moved some meetings to drill weekend to better involve and train traditional members, and may need to move more. We have added a meeting of Commanders and First Sergeants at 0730 each drill Saturday.

Previously we have requested employer, email and

similar information from each member. The information is intended to improve our communications with our traditional members and to help us express thanks to our civilian employers. If you have not already completed this form, please see your First Sergeant.

Mentoring and communications are definitely two-way streets. Anyone who wants to enhance their career must make their wishes known, be available at reasonable times; stay current on issues such as immunizations, the government travel card and training requirements; complete PME in a timely manner; seek deployment opportunities; talk with your supervisor and commander; keep your uniform and records current; and be sure to mentor and encourage those with whom you work. If we work together there is nothing out of our reach.

GREETINGS FROM THE DINING FACILITY

In an effort to speed up the serving line, and to provide more menu options to our customers, we are trying a change in the dining facility this month. The regular menu line will be served on the left, and the "fast food" items will be served on the right. In doing this we hope to be able to provide more options to those patrons that prefer "fast food" over the traditional type meal. We would appreciate your requests for items – but just remember that they must have universal appeal and not be cost prohibitive. We will still be serving salad on both sides, and hope to add baked potatoes and soup to the express side as well.

I am also writing this note to allow you all a peek behind the curtain. Most people don't realize how we receive our funds to purchase our food. It is simple; your signatures equal our dollars. When we

get more signatures, we have more money to spend. When we have more money we get to serve better quality meats. When we have less money we serve more ground beef and chicken meals.

"But Lt., the line is too long..." It is if you come at the beginning of the meal. Usually about 45 minutes into each meal, there is little or no line. I am well aware that, for many, the highlight of each guard drill is the fellowship experienced through seeing friends that you haven't seen for a month. So call up your friends and suggest going a half hour later. You will be able to spend less time standing in line together, and more time dining together. See you all soon, and keep those suggestions coming.

Thom Bittick
2Lt 186th SVF

NCO GOLF TOURNAMENT

Naval Air Station, Ponta Creek

April 5, 2004

0900 Tee Time

\$90/Team

3 Person Select

Call Aaron Davis,

Tim Dean or

Karen Gibbs

484-9343 or 484-9721



PRIVACY INFORMATION/CELL PHONES

Paragraph 3.3.3 SSNS are personal and unique to each individual. Protect them as FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO). Within DOD, do not disclose them to anyone without an official need to know.

All disclosures of privacy act material should be protected to the best of the individual's ability regardless of how it was transmitted.

Per discussion with Ms. Anne Rollins, AF Privacy Act Officer, discussions between two or more DOD employees in their official capacities is in

compliance with the above paragraph of AFI33-332. This includes telephone calls (from either cell phones or land lines), faxes, land mobile radios (LMR) etc.

A privacy act statement should be included when sending email containing personal information. This statement should be placed at the beginning of the email and only when privacy information is within the email.

FAMILY READINESS NEWS – SPOUSE FLIGHTS

It has finally happened! Spouses have been mobilized for Operation Ready Families. We have 29 excited spouses who will go through the mobility processing line with their mobility bag and Kevlar helmet to get the kind of pre-deployment briefings that a military member would get before deploying. After the briefings we will board a KC-135 to watch an actual in flight refueling. Spouses should show up at 0700hrs on Sunday in the dining facility to begin the day.

If your spouse is participating in the flight and you have no one to care for your child during the flight, Col Hearon has authorized you to bring your child to drill. However, please ensure that your child is supervised at all times and do not allow him/her to be exposed to a hazardous work environment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call the Family Program Office at (601) 484-9623 or Major Brad Crawford at (601) 484-9803.

REMINDER FROM SECURITY FORCES

Security is aware of the traffic congestion on Sunday drill and is looking at possible ways to alleviate the problem.

Until a permanent fix is in place, please try to arrive a few minutes early.

Thank you for your assistance.



WINGS OVER MERIDIAN: *featuring the Blue Angels*

“Wings Over Meridian” — featuring the Blue Angels — will be held April 17-18 on board NAS Meridian.

Also appearing will be the Black Daggers (U. S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team), Gary Ward in his Giles 202, the Pitts Specials Formation Aerobatic Team, A-10 and P-51 (Air Force Air Combat Command), and more.

Another crowd pleaser will be the Blue Angel C-130 performing a jet assisted take off.

The air show will be free and open to the public. Gates will open at 9:00 a.m.

For more, go to www.meridianairshow.com
<<http://www.meridianairshow.com>>



SGLI NEWS FROM PERSONNEL

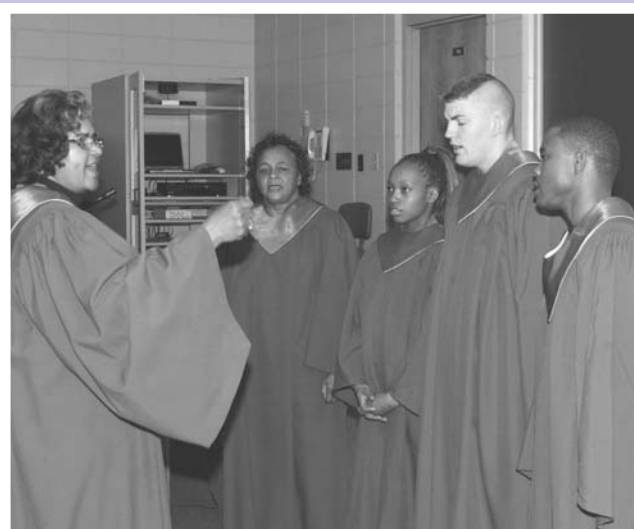
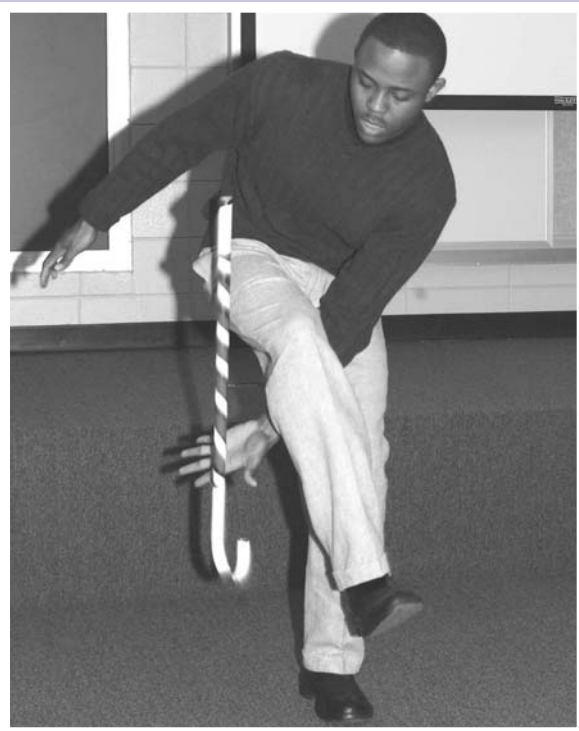
We were recently made aware of a systems problem at DFAS-DE that affects Family SGLI (FSGLI) transactions. Since Nov/Dec 03 timeframe, some of the updates made to the FSGLI website to cancel or reduce coverage are rejecting and the premiums continue to be deducted from some members pay. DFAS is working to resolve this problem, however, a projected “fix” date is not known at this time. In the meantime, DFAS has advised they will continue to store the rejects and work those that can be fixed manually, while they seek a final solution. This problem will in no way affect coverage and those who declined or reduced coverage will receive a retroactive refund of any premiums.

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM EDUCATIONAL IN MANY WAYS

Members of the unit were treated to an educational Black History Program during February UTA. This year's program was themed "Celebrating 50 Years, Brown -vs.- Board of Education and featured Mr. Ed Lynch as guest speaker. Mr. Lynch, currently vice president of the Meridian School Board of Trustees, reflected

on the theme of the program and shared his experiences as a child growing up in Meridian, attending Meridian Public Schools, and now as a business owner in Meridian. He suggested ways in which society could move forward and encouraged members to work together to make a difference in the world.

Unit members also provided educational entertainment with several members participating in the program. The Voices of Change Choir provided song, SSgt Randy Townsend demonstrated the Greek Step, SrA Demurtus Brown shared a personal poem, SrA Carla Hudson performed two solos, and SrA Engret Jenkins performed "Negro Mother".



CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Jesus Christ said that the greatest commandment was to love the Lord our God with all of our heart and soul and strength. The second greatest commandment was like the first in that we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus said that all of the law was summed up in those two commandments. (Matt. 22:37-40) In light of that read the following story and make a commitment to keep those two commandments. As you read the following story put yourself in the shoes of the elderly grandfather.

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.

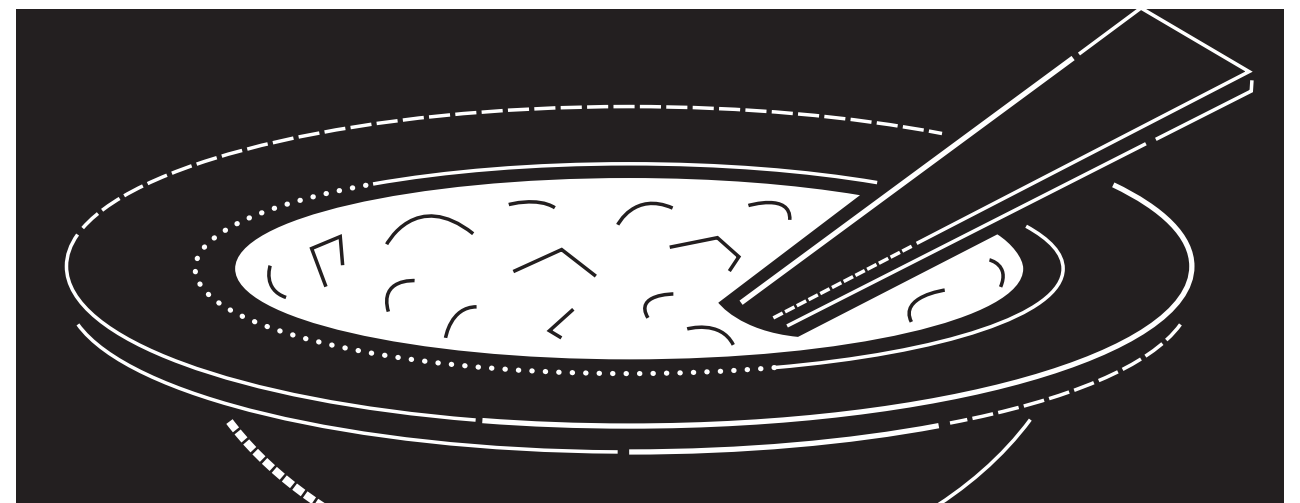
When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork

or spilled food. The four year old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four year old smiled and went back to work. The words so struck the parents that they were speechless.

Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done. That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

Chaplain David Allen



RETIREMENTS

TSgt Noel B. Alexander,
17 Feb 2004, Maintenance Sq, 22+ years

SMSgt Ronald L. Hayes,
17 Feb 2004, Maintenance Sq, 37+ years

SMSgt Jimmie T. Owen,
4 Mar 2004, Maintenance Gp, 33+ years

LTC Edward Nahay,
8 Mar 2004, Communications Flt, 21+ years

SMSgt Dwayne E. Reynolds,
10 Mar 2004, Civil Engineer Sq, 24+ years

LTC Denton G. Braswell Jr.,
12 Mar 2004, Medical Sq, 31+ years

Major Christopher L. Gant,
15 Mar 2004, 22+ years

MAR. PAY DATES

The schedule below shows dates you can expect to receive pay for duty performed during March 2004. For example, if you should perform duty on 03 March, you can expect to be paid on 12 March if the form is received in Military Pay NLT 1200 on 03 Mar 2004.

<u>Run Date</u>	<u>Pay Date</u>
01 Mar 2004	10 Mar 2004
03 Mar 2004	12 Mar 2004
10 Mar 2004	19 Mar 2004
15 Mar 2004	24 Mar 2004
17 Mar 2004	26 Mar 2004
23 Mar 2004.....	01 Apr 2004
29 Mar 2004.....	07 Apr 2004
31 Mar 2004.....	09 Apr 2004

Unit Training Assembly performed on 06-07 Mar 2004 should pay on 19 Mar 04.

ENLISTMENTS

A1C Christopher N. Alexander,
Maintenance Sq, 27 Jan 2004

A1C Rodgrick L. Anderson,
Civil Engineer Sq, 28 Jan 2004

A1C Toby J. Campbell,
Aircraft Maintenance Sq, 28 Jan 2004

SSgt Barry G. Gant Jr.,
Civil Engineer Sq, 7 Feb 2004

A1C Carlesa R. Henley,
Medical Sq, 7 Feb 2004

A1C Joshua D. Hopkins,
Security Forces Sq, 7 Feb 2004

A1C Hailey C. Lewis,
Services Flt, 7 Feb 2004

A1C Jonathan E. Parker,
Security Forces Sq, 7 Feb 2004

Capt (Chaplain) Joseph M. Fields,
HQS, 186 ARW, 7 Feb 2004

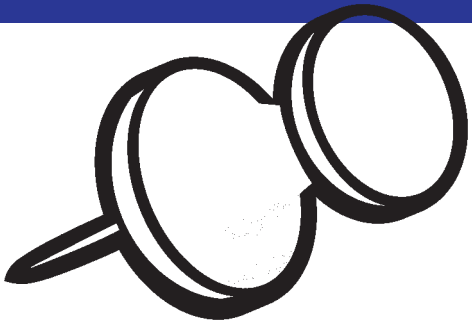
PROMOTIONS

<u>MSgt</u>		
BEN H. BRYANT		248 ATC
<u>TSgt</u>		
TENIKA L. SCOTT		186 SVF
<u>SSgt</u>		
KIMBERLY L. THIGPEN		186 MDS
TIMOTHY M. ADKINS		186 SFS
<u>Sra</u>		
SAMUEL J. GUNN		186 AGS
TRAVIS M. HUNTLEY		186 AGS
DAVID A. RIGDON		153 ARS
JOEL D. WEAVER		186 AGS
CRYSTAL K. LEWIS		248 ATC

BULLETIN BOARD

National Guard
Association Insurance

Any individual that took the free one year \$10,000 Life Insurance Policy should contact MSgt Angie Baughman in building 803(238 ASOS) this UTA.



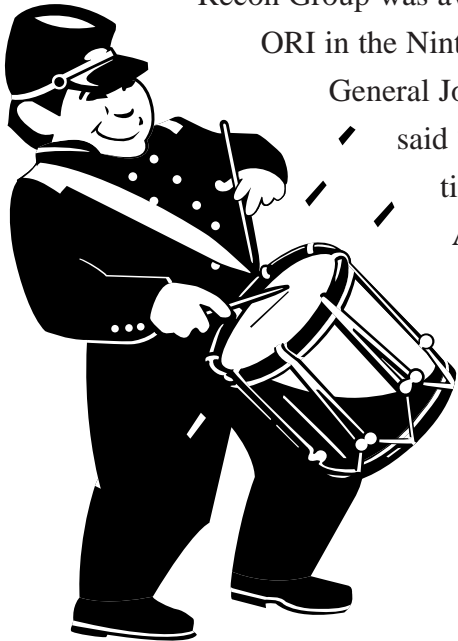
Confirmed Dates for Kid's AT

Hot off the press! Confirmed dates for Kid's AT are 20-26 June 2004 at Camp Shelby. I do not have the applications yet but if you would like to volunteer to work camp this year please contact me ASAP. Camper and Junior Counselor applications will soon be distributed to all units on base and will be available in my office also. If you have any questions please call the Family Program Office at (601) 484-9623.

VFW Post 79

Last year many members of the 186 ARW were given a free one year membership to the national VFW and \$1,500 in free term life insurance. If you would like to continue this membership or if you would like to know how to become a member of the local VFW Post 79 please contact Jimmy Roundtree at 601.938.3478.

LOOKING BACK



• 23 September 1983- The 186th Tac Recon Group was awarded the Best ORI in the Ninth Air Force. Lt General John Piotrowski said “This is the first time that a Tactical Air Command Reconnaissance unit has ever received this prestigious award.”

• 15 December 1945 - The 153rd Liason Squadron was deactivated and released from federal service. The 153rd gained federal recognition on September 12, 1946 as the 153rd Fighter Squadron, Single Engine.

• Fifty-nine Squadrons or groups received their training at Key field, Meridian, Mississippi during the Second World War. They included fighter, tactical reconnaissance, photographic, liason and bombardment.

PORTAL ACCOUNTS

General Jumper, our Air Force Chief of Staff, mandates that all AF personnel have a Portal account by April 2004. This includes you and anyone else with an af.mil account. As of 1 January 2004 less than five thousand Air National Guard accounts have been established. Please provide these instructions to everyone working for the Air National Guard: Contractors, Department of the Air Force Civilians, State Employees, Technicians, AGRs, Traditional Guardsmen, and active duty Air Force personnel. You must have a final security clearance.

To establish a Portal account follow the directions below

- 1- Access the Internet and log into <https://my.af.mil>
- 2- Scroll down to Self-Registration Page
- 3- Enter requested information
- 4- Select MAJCOM as the organizational unit
- 5- Select Air National Guard as the sub unit
- 6- Base/Location {select your wing if your base is not listed}
- 7- Complete the balance of the registration process

If denied access to the portal, call the FAB number listed on the portal registration page for assistance.

While waiting for your user name/password, please visit the Air Force Portal Tutorial. You will be provided a user name and password in an email (usually within minutes).

NCO INFO

NCO Association News

President, MSG Lynn Barlow President #49244
NCO Association membership drive is drawing to a close. If you are not a member, JOIN a winning team! Find out about the latest issues:

www.eangus.org

Upcoming Events

NCO Assn Conference to be held in Jackson, MS
16-18 Apr 04

Please see your NCO Director to pay
your NCO dues.

NCO Auxiliary Note

If your spouse is interested in becoming a member, please contact:

Billy Barlow, Junior Director, 601-656-9521

Auxiliary Director Position – **open**, if interested, call Billy Barlow.

Annual NCO Association Meeting

03 Apr 04, 1000 hrs
OPS Briefing Room, Bldg 308
We will hold elections of Officers and Directors

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Junior State Director
- Security Director
- CE Director
- Mission Support Director
- Medical Director
- Maintenance Director
- 238th Director
- Services Director
- Chaplain

If you are interested in running for any of the above positions call MSG Lynn Barlow 4-9244.

UNIFORM TIPS

Flight Cap: Slightly to the wearer’s right with vertical crease of the cap in line with the center of the forehead, in a straight line with the nose; the cap extends approximately 1 inch from the eyebrows in the front; hair may be visible in front of cap; if not worn, tuck under the belt on either side, between first and second belt loops; cap will not fold over belt. Cap has blue-colored edge braid for airmen, silver-colored edge braid for general officers, and silver and blue in a diamond pattern edge braid for all other officers.

Outergarments: Outdoors and remove in an office environment; use good judgment in choosing appropriate garments for wear based on weather conditions and duties; wear with civilian clothes if grade is removed.

Field Jacket Olive Green-(OG) 507: Configure accouterments the same as the BDUs.

EXCEPTIONS: Officers wear subdued cloth grade insignia on the epaulets. If the jacket does not have epaulets, wear grade insignia on the collar.

(Camouflage Pattern) Same as OG 507 field jacket; officers may wear subdued metal grade insignia.

Single-Breasted All-Weather Coat: Coat will fit loosely enough to accommodate shoulders of BDUs and food service uniform will fit without binding at armholes when arms are moved; length of coat will fall between knee length to 6 inches below back crease of knee; top button may be left unbuttoned, fly front, with zip-out liner, split raglan sleeves, stand-up collar, slash-through pockets.

Double-Breasted All-Weather Coat: Same as single-breasted. Stand-up collar, six-button front, Shoulder epaulets with buttons, sleeve straps with buckles, split raglan and set in the back.

Raincoat: Loose fitting with bottom of coat extending to between bottom of kneecap and mid calf; neck button may be left unbuttoned. Single-breasted with fly front; waterproof poly vinyl butyl nylon.

Lightweight Blue Jacket: Zip up at least half way; partially lined, water repellent, waist length, zipper front, with two slant pockets and knitted cuffs with or without insulated liner.



SAFETY AWARD



Life Support was the recipient of a Safety Award for the 1st Quarter FY 04. They received this award for their Emergency Action Plan and ORM assessment in Combat Land Survival and Water Survival Training. Congratulations on a job well done!

Pictured left to right: SMSgt Roger Gaines, TSgt Jody Skinner, MSgt Christopher Null, SRA Richard Bailey, SRA Joshua Williams, SSgt Daniel Weatherford, CMSgt William Martin Jr, A1C David Rigdon (not pictured, A1C Joseph S. Hatcher

TOM WILLIAMS RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN AWARD

Mr. Tom Williams, Executive Director of the Meridian Regional Airport Authority, receives the Mississippi Distinguished Citizen Award from Col Hearon at a recent Meridian City Council meeting. Mr. Williams was presented the award for his outstanding support of the 186 ARW. Over the past several years the 186 ARW and the airport authority have worked very closely on many projects to benefit the 186 ARW and the Meridian airport.



COMMAND CHIEF BENTON VISITS THE 186 ARW



CMSgt Benton is introduced by Col Hearon to Commanders, First Sergeants, and HQ staff.

The Command Chief of the Air National Guard, CMSgt Valerie Benton, visited the 186 ARW during February UTA to share her leadership philosophy and listen to concerns of unit members. CMSgt Benton visited with the Commanders, First Sergeants, and HQ staff on Friday at a unit training meeting and spent the day Saturday at Key Field meeting with First Sergeants, unit members, and attending the Black History Month program.

During her visit, CMSgt Benton had many kind words for the unit. She noted a positive attitude and a desire by unit members to continue the good work of the ANG. CMSgt Benton let members know that at the NGB level "We recognize those who are making it happen out there and we want to accommodate them" by making issues known and influencing changes in policy that benefit the guard.

CMSgt Benton represents all ANG enlisted personnel and works for the director of the ANG in Washington DC. She advises the director on morale, welfare, retention, and other issues concerning the force. While CMSgt Benton is a member of the Kansas ANG, Mississippi is a special place to her because her mother was born in Meridian and both her parents grew up in Macon. She spent many summers in Macon visiting Mississippi as a child.



CMSgt Benton talks with 186 ARW Command Chief Goodin and MSgt Barlow about National Guard issues.

AIRMEN OF THE YEAR & 1ST SERGEANT OF THE YEAR

Airmen of the Year and First Sergeant of the Year Announced February UTA



MSgt Jeffery Hinton, TSgt Catherine Scarborough, and MSgt Sonia Jones receive awards at February UTA. (SrA Antonio McClelland not pictured)

Master Sergeant Sonia Jones is Key Field's Senior NCO of the Year for 2004. MSgt Jones is assigned to the 186th Medical Squadron, as a Medical Service Superintendent. After an active duty tour with the Air Force MSgt Jones enlisted with the 186th Air Refueling Wing in September 1994. She is a 36-year-old single mother of one son, Michael. MSgt Jones is currently working toward her Masters of Science Degree in Guidance and Counseling. While at the clinic MSgt Jones has provided superior supervision and leadership to the 15 Airmen and NCOs assigned to her. Her job expertise and proficiency has made it easy to train others while raising morale and encouraging

others to be more open with communications. MSgt Jones is active in her church, school, and family as well as here at Key Field where she is a member of the NCO Association and the Diversity Council. She is truly an expert in all she does.

Technical Sergeant Catherine D. Scarborough is Key Field's NCO of the Year for 2004. TSgt Scarborough is assigned to the 186th Medical Squadron as an Aerospace Medicine Craftsman where she is employed full time. She is a 36-year-old single mother of three; Lameka L., Avery D., and Lenny J. TSgt Scarborough started

a career in the medical field shortly after high school and continues it to this day by working toward her Bachelors of Science Degree in Health Related Professions. TSgt Scarborough has a can-do attitude that is filtered down to subordinates and noted by senior personnel in the squadron. She has been instrumental in overseeing several projects mandated by higher headquarters while ensuring they meet imposed deadlines. TSgt Scarborough is an active member in her community as well as an active member in associations within the Air National Guard. Her outstanding leadership and commitment to duty make her a stand out and certainly deserving of this award.

Senior Airman Antonio R. McClelland is Key Field's Airman of the Year for 2004. SrA McClelland is assigned to the 248th Air Traffic Control Squadron. He is a 27-year-old father of Jordan A. McClelland. After completing Basic Military Training and Technical School in the Air Traffic Control career field, SrA McClelland has volunteered for several deployments overseas. While in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, he showed his outstanding skill as a Controller by averting a US Army BE-20 aircraft and its crew from loss of life and property while the aircraft was experiencing engine failure. SrA McClelland has a level head and a can-do attitude at all times. He has been awarded the Mississippi Commendation Medal and the Air Force Achievement Medal for his outstanding work while deployed overseas. Out of 100 plus applicants SrA McClelland was hired recently by the Federal Aviation Administration and currently works in New Mexico. SrA McClelland speaks to church groups, teenagers and college students at every afforded opportunity about the advantages of being a Mississippi Air National Guardsman. These qualities make SrA McClelland deserving of the 2004 Airman of the Year award.

Master Sergeant Jeffrey L. Hinton is Key Field's First Sergeant of the Year for 2004. MSgt Hinton is assigned to the 238th Air Support Operations Squadron, as First Sergeant. He is married to Regina, and they have two children, Adam and Jessica. MSgt Hinton's vast knowledge of the Military has given him outstanding ability to work and understand others. His vast knowledge of personnel helps him with the rigors of being a First Sergeant. It also has helped him implement the new Air National Guard Fitness Program and the new Enlisted Performance Feedback System recently mandated by higher headquarters. MSgt is highly respected by the enlisted force as well as the officers in the squadron. This high involvement with the personnel and vast

News from the 238th Air Support Operations Squadron

When President Bush spoke to the troops at Fort Polk, LA, on 17 February 2004, seven members of the 238th ASOS were in the crowd. Maj John "Stan" Williams, Capt John "Duke" Parrett, TSgt Brian Rittenhouse, TSgt Daniel Daughtery, TSgt Johnny McGuire, SSgt Jason Gressett, and SRA Quintin Sellers were at Fort Polk as part of the 39th Infantry Brigade's pre-deployment Military Rehearsal Exercise (MRX) at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC). SSgt Jason Gressett also had the honor of having lunch with the President; he was the only Air Force member selected out of the 4000 members of the 39th Brigade to meet the President personally.

Lt Col Norman W. Miller